

Appendix Item # 19.f. i)  
Date 8-1-07

21984 Crestmoor Rd.  
Golden, CO 80401  
July 25, 2007

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DODGE COUNTY, IOWA  
FRED NYTTY, COUNTY CLERK

Dodge County Commissioners  
Court House  
435 No. Park  
Fremont, NE 68025

Dear Commissioners:

I just learned about the decision by the County Building Inspection & Zoning Dept. to allow a Use Permit for Class 1 Livestock Feeding Operation in W. Sec. 20, T19N, R5E, Pleasant Valley Township. Our property is just across the road in Sec. 19, T19N, R5E. It is rural farmland supporting corn, beans, etc., along with a greenbelt for wildlife protection. It has been in our family well over 100 years, and some family members are there in the Pleasant Valley Church graveyard. It is a historic area for the Hasch/Stoltenberg families.

We are quite concerned about the quality of community life for neighboring property owners in this vicinity, especially concerning odor, ground-water contamination, increased traffic/noise, and a huge cement pad/septic system/building(s) that will undoubtedly be there forever. Once installed, this operation could expand beyond a "small" feedlot, and possibly set precedents for other operators.

Such an operation may cause a decrease in land value, which is of primary concern, considering that the taxes are extremely high now. I'm wondering if a feedlot generates more income for the county than farmland and that is why Zoning approved this permit – or was it just "rubber-stamped" through?

No doubt the people requesting the permit are responsible, good farmers and operators, but they apparently do not want the "situation" in their back yard either.

We do not want the operation across the road from our farm, either. We object to the proposal and request that you deny this request for permit. Please include these comments as a part of your records.

Please, please deny this request.

Sincerely,



Jean Jurgens Widman

7840 West End Rd.  
Arcata, CA 95521  
7-26-2007

Dodge County Planning Commission  
Courthouse, 435 N. Park  
Fremont, NE 68025

Re: Conditional Use Permit Application  
Pleasant Valley

Dear Commissioners:

I urge you to deny the proposed plan for a conditional use permit which would allow a hog finishing facility across the road from our family property, parcel # E1/2SE 1/4 80A 19 19 5.

A Conditional Use Permit which allows a structure large enough to house 2000 hogs, complete with an underground concrete sewage system and enough space for large tractor-trailers to turn around, will create a negative visual impact and considerable loss of farmland. Increased traffic resulting from servicing the facility is not desirable. It would make more sense to require that facilities which require a permit for new buildings be placed on property contiguous with existing homesteads. Then windbreaks or vegetation could be planted to help camouflage buildings such as those needed for a hog finishing facility and help them fit into the landscape.

If this "conditional" use permit is granted it seems quite likely that other applications will follow. Once a precedent is set, it is difficult to disallow other projects of a similar nature whether it be hogs, cattle, sheep or applications from individual farmers or corporations.

As a steward of farm land that has been in my family for more than 120 years, I plead with you to deny any permit which allows large, commercial-type buildings to be built across the road from our 80 acres or any place where they stand alone and create blight on the landscape.

Sincerely,



Janice Rothrock



7840 West End Rd.  
Arcata, CA 95521  
July 26, 2007

Jean Andrews, Zoning Administrator  
Courthouse - 435 N. Park, Rm 204  
Fremont, NE 68025


Dear M. Andrews:

I understand that there will be a County Commissioners meeting August 1, 2007 wherein they will make the final decision regarding a request from Mr. Thomas Ortmeier for a Conditional Use Permit in Pleasant Valley Township.

Please submit the enclosed letter to the commissioners and enter it into the public record.  
Thanks for your assistance.

I hope you will concur that it is in the best interest of farmland which is currently and historically has been under cultivation to remain productive rather than house large metal buildings and trailer-truck turn- arounds.

Thank You,

  
Janice Rothrock

